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The Signal



Friday, August 15, 2003

Published for the Department of Defense and the Fort Gordon community

Vol. 23, No. 32

News UPDATE

Free concert

The Fort Gordon Freedom Jam military appreciation concert is **Saturday** from 3-8:30 p.m. at Barton Field. The concert, featuring CSRA musicians including 420 Outback, Jemani and Shinebox, is free. Call 791-6234 for information.

Tech Show

The annual Fort Gordon Tech Show is 10 a.m.-2 p.m. **Tuesday** at the Gordon Club. Hosted by the Directorate of Information Management, admission is free. For information, call (888) 282-2262 or go to www.atc-expo.com/shows.

Memorial service

There will be a memorial service for Capt. Kenneth Anderson, 551st Signal Battalion, at 2 p.m. **Friday** at the Barnes Avenue Friendship Chapel.

Organization day

The 93rd Signal Brigade will hold its Organization Day from 8 a.m.-3 p.m. **Sept. 10** on the quarter mile track of Barton Field. There will be a cookout and activities for all ages, including softball, a talent show, dunk booth, and a humvee pull. Call 791-9336 or 791-9375 for information.

Women's Equality Day activities

The 116th Military Intelligence Group is sponsoring a Women's Equality Day 5K fun run/walk at 7 a.m. **Aug. 26**. The race will start at the reviewing stand on Barton Field. The first 100 runners and the first 30 walkers to finish will receive T-shirts. Registration will be that morning at the reviewing stand from 6-6:45 a.m. For more information contact Sgt. 1st Class Richard Mitchell at 791-0921 or e-mail rmitch@grsoc.gordon.army.mil.

Equal Employment Opportunity is having a Women's Equality Day breakfast from 7:30-9 a.m. **Aug. 26** at the Gordon Club. Guest speaker is Marcia Glenn, the mayor of Lithonia, Ga. Call EEO at 791-4551 by Aug. 22 to purchase tickets.

The Gordon Club is having a luncheon 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m. **Aug. 26**. For information, call 791-6780.

The Women's Equality Day command program is 1:30 p.m. **Aug. 28** at Alexander Hall. The guest speaker will be Georgia Representative Sue Burmeister. For information, call 791-2014.

Newcomer orientation

The newcomer orientation is held **Tuesdays** and **Fridays** at 1 p.m. in Room 367, Darling Hall.

UIT set to launch first virtual campus

Spc. Leslie Pearson
513th Military Intelligence Brigade

The University of Information Technology, a lifelong learning center at Fort Gordon, is set to launch a virtual campus pilot program this September in Manheim, Germany.

The program will serve the 5th Signal Command, the signal command group for Europe.

UIT is also scheduled to provide a pilot 74B10 course to the 3-108th Signal Total Army School System Battalion in the fall of 2003. This will mark the first time the 74B course will be taught off-post as a non-resident course.

The preparations involved in making this happen was no small feat for UIT computer system engineers such as Maj. James (Jake) Pennington, who has been integrally involved in the project's evolution.

According to Pennington, the UIT came into fruition about two years ago after Dr. Robert Helms, director of Strategic Initiatives at the Research Triangle Institute in North Carolina, received a directive to conduct a study on the post's signal training methods. The goal was to see how the post could advance their training with the objective force construct in mind.

"The study concluded that with the new injections of equipment coming out everyday on the battlefield and frequently changing technology, our methods of training would have to change to coincide. This forced us to think outside the box," Pennington said.

"Soldiers need training while they're in the field. Soldiers



Photo by Spc. Leslie Pearson

Maj. Keith Perkins, chief of simulations and lifelong learning at UIT, demonstrates the latest in PC-based Signal equipment simulations.

have to be trained in the system while they're here so when they get to the field they already understand how to use it.

"In addition, we had to change how we think as an institution, how units in the field think and how soldiers think during training.

In other words, we had to build a product that's viable and current and we have to be able to deliver that to a unit in the field. So we came up with a lifelong learning solution construct called the University of Information Technology," Pennington said.

The purpose of developing the virtual campuses was to transform and expand the learning environment for Signal soldiers, creating a uniform way to access training in the classroom as well as in the field, at the start of training in AIT and as follow-up training is needed

over the years.

The UIT offers a true transformation in training methods. Virtual training is done through a program called Blackboard, an on-line training solution, which is accessed directly from the UIT website.

This replaces the current methods of teaching such as in-class lectures, PowerPoint presentations, tactical training and paperwork.

Now individual Signal soldiers can learn at their own pace by viewing prerecorded demonstrations and lectures; reading notes and instructions on computer screens instead of books or manuals and performing tasks with simulations of the latest signal equipment. Virtual conferencing is also available for students needing 'live' assistance.

See UIT, Page 7A

Post outfitted for emergencies

Denise Allen
Signal staff

Fort Gordon is one of three Army bases and nine total military installations to be part of a pilot program to enhance emergency readiness through extended training and additional equipment.

"I think we got it because of the work of the last seven years," said John Houpt, emergency manager of JSIPP, the Joint Service Installation Pilot Program.

Over the past seven years, personnel have carried out numerous mass casualty exercises that included Fort Gordon, the surrounding Augusta community and officials with several states in the Southeast.

Managed by the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, JSIPP provides \$12.6 million for training and equipment for installation emergency responders, and \$43.7 million for chemical and biological detection systems for the nine installations.

Fort Gordon received \$875,000 for equipment and \$350,000 for training. Some of the equipment will be used by first responders such as the firefighters on post.

"There was a standard equipment list. We went through line by line," said Houpt.

Fort Gordon personnel were given leeway when determining which pieces of equipment would be beneficial to this installation and to others. One of the items on the list was a \$100,000 mass spectrometer, a highly technical piece of equipment that provides detailed chemical analysis of contaminants in the air.

"I have a Ph.D. and it would have taken me six months to figure out how to use it," he said.

Since those required to operate the machine would have to have a highly technical degree, Houpt and others including Fire Chief D.K. Bennett, felt that item would be better taken off the list and the \$100,000 used elsewhere.

One item the team felt was important to have was a decontamination trailer, which cost about \$170,000.

In a mass casualty scenario, the equipment would be extremely valuable, said Bennett.

Other funding will go toward training. Funds will not only be used to train Fort Gordon personnel, but those in the surrounding community.

Fort Gordon firefighters work full-time and receive extensive training; however, there are surrounding communities in Columbia County and in Aiken County, S.C., who utilize volunteer firefighters, who likely do not have as much sophisticated training.

In a mass incident such as the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, thousands of first responders were on the scene

See JSIPP, Page 7A

Soldier's family supports adopted country

Spc. Zoe Morris
Signal staff

Hard work began at an early age for Staff Sgt. Mina Carter. She was working in the rice fields alongside her family at age five in their home of Vientian, Laos, a small country bordering Vietnam and Thailand.

Carter is now assigned to Headquarters and Company A, 442nd Signal Battalion and works as a network administrator at the School of Information Technology here – a far cry from the rice fields.

Carter's mother and father escaped communist Laos with Carter and her five siblings, the youngest just three years old, in the dead of the night in March 1988.

"I remember the day we escaped," Carter said. "It was dawn when we crossed the Mekong River. When we turned (to look) back there were a lot of armed guards on the river bank, but they couldn't shoot because we had crossed the Thai boarder.

"We escaped with just the clothes on our back. The scariest part was when we got in the boat and the engine wouldn't start. We had to paddle until about the middle of the river, before the engine finally started," she said.

In 1975, the Communist Pathet Lao took control of the government, ending a six-century-old monarchy. The government of Laos is one of the few remaining official Communist states in the world.

During the communist '80s, people

were not allowed to leave the country. But before the communist reign Carter's father, Paul Kindavong, received his education in the United States. He remembered how much he liked the country and decided to bring his family to the states.

"He wanted better living conditions and a lot of opportunities for us to improve ourselves," Carter said. "He wanted the freedoms and rights we could have in the U.S. - freedom of speech and freedom of religion."

"I have my parents to thank for our ways of life. Every day I thank

them for what they did for us."

After crossing the river the Kindavong's were sent to a napho (refugee) camp in Thailand, where they lived for four months waiting for paperwork that would send them to America. Carter's great aunt moved to St. Petersburg, Fla., in 1975 and sponsored the family for immigration. Once sponsored the family was moved to a camp in the Philippines where they stayed for six months learning English and about American culture and customs.



Courtesy photo

A photo from 1988 shows Carter's family when they arrived at a Thai refugee camp.

"I was very excited," said Carter, about when she first got to America. "I felt a little out of place at first because my English is not that good and a lot of people couldn't understand me. I remember when my art teacher asked me to speak "loud." I spoke "Lao," the language I speak to my family, is pronounced almost like "loud."

"My father told me that America is the land of opportunities and freedom. As long as we don't do anything illegal, we won't have any trouble. He loves the way of life here," she said.

Finally, after 10 long months, Carter and her family arrived at her great aunt's house in St. Petersburg.

When she was old enough, Carter joined the Army, following in the footsteps of her two older brothers. Five of the six siblings are in the Army – the sixth had polio as a child and couldn't join.

"We wanted to serve the country," said Carter. "This country has given us a lot and we want to give something back.

"My youngest brother is in basic right now and my oldest has been in since '93," she said. Carter has a sister in Japan and sister and brother in Germany and her youngest brother is at Fort Jackson, S.C., in basic training. Her parents and other brother are still in St. Petersburg.

"We try to get together once in a while. We're really close," Carter said.

See Laos, Page 7A

C Co., 67th Signal Battalion recognized for Deployment excellence

Staff Sgt. Kelly McCargo
93rd Signal Brigade
Public Affairs Office

Army units have been gaining a considerable amount of experience conducting unit deployments as the war on terrorism continues to be waged throughout the world.

"Deployments aren't just about packing your bags and getting on a plane," said Capt. Amanda Iden, C Company, 67th Signal Battalion, 93rd Signal Brigade, company commander. "In a deployment there are a lot of moving pieces you have to go through."

Vehicles and equipment must be inspected; soldiers' records have to be updated; transportation has to be allocated, and so forth, said Iden. Nevertheless, there is now an added incentive to deploy.

The Chief of Staff of the Army has founded the Deployment of Excellence Award to recognize units and soldiers for their outstanding achievements in conducting deployments.

The C Co., 67th Sig. Bn., was selected as the 2003 runner-up for the small unit deployment category for its support of the 2002 Task Force Longhorn at Fort Sam Houston, Texas.

"When doing a deployment you have to maintain every document you receive," said Iden. "The DEA is about how you planned on (and executed) getting your unit out the door."

Something every commander knows, but be forewarned – the DEA scrutinizes every detail of the deployment procedure, through your records, she said.

The criteria for organizing a deployment nomination packet is detailed on the DEA website, and Iden maintains that the evaluators are "very" thorough.

Each unit compiles a deploy-

ment nomination packet, or book, which details their movement procedures.

"Once you start getting your deployment books together you realize that you need absolutely everything," said Iden. "The company's first sergeant and lieutenants sat down and discussed what we needed to do to get this packet together."

Active units must submit their unit deployment nomination packet through their proper command channels to their appropriate major commands. The unit's MACOM then forwards the packet to the evaluation board at Fort Eustis, Va.

"We do a lot of deployments so it's easy to become complacent with the deployment process," said Iden. "A previous commander was fond of saying 'don't become complacent in what you do. You have to go through the steps.'"

C Co.'s book tells the story of what the company has accomplished. And because Iden and her staff took the time to tell the story, C Co. won the Forces Command DEA in 2002 and was the runner up at DA level in 2003.

"We all wear the uniform, and we all want to (deploy) somewhere," she said. "The greatest moment of the deployment is when that load master says, 'all right, load it up.'"

After multiple trips to the wash rack, equipment weigh-ins, and soldier readiness programs, being allowed to load equipment, vehicles and personnel onto the boats, trailers, planes or trains is perhaps the final stage of the deployment, said Iden.

The primary objective of the DEA is to recognize deploying units, supporting units, and installations for outstanding mission accomplishment, which meet or exceed established deployment standards; capture

and share innovative deployment initiatives, which have improved the deployment; and track Army deployment training trends for doctrinal and training updates process.

For more information, go to www.deploy.eustis.army.mil.

A unit from the Criminal Investigation Division was named the 2003 DEA winner, Iden said. DEA winners will receive a

plaque and a shadow box with a mounted certificate of excellence and a coin from the Chief of Staff of the Army.

Also, two unit members from each winning unit or installation will receive a round trip ticket to Washington, D.C., to accept the award at a banquet with senior army officials.

The DEA competition begins April 1 each year.



Photos by Staff Sgt. Kelly McCargo

Maj. Gen. James C. Hylton (left), U.S. Army Network Enterprise Technology/9th Army Signal Command, commanding general presents Capt. Amanda Iden, C Co., 67th Signal Battalion, company commander and 1st Sgt. Rodney Wells, C Co., 67th Sig. Bn., company first sergeant, the NETCOM Deployment of Excellence Award, at the 67th Sig. Bn., July 25.

Fort Gordon Report



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The newest edition of the *Fort Gordon Report* premieres **Tuesday** and includes the following stories:

- **Welcome interview with Brig. Gen. Greg Premo**
- **Freedom Park Elementary opens doors for new school year**

The *Fort Gordon Report* and *Army Newswatch* alternate weeks on Charter Cable Channel 13 on:

Mondays and Thursdays at 7:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m., 5:30 p.m., 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m., Tuesdays and Fridays at 7 a.m., 12 p.m., 5 p.m., 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m., Wednesdays at 6:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m., 4:30 p.m., 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m., and Saturdays and Sundays at 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

The next edition of the *Army Newswatch* premieres **Aug. 18**.

Catch the newest "Fort Gordon Report" on Comcast Cable Channel 66 on: Mondays, Thursdays, Saturdays and Sundays at 9:00 p.m., Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 8:30 a.m.

The "Fort Gordon Report" is the Signal Center's official television news program and is produced on post by the Fort Gordon Public Affairs Office and the Training Support Center.

Cold War certificates still available

Army News Service

ALEXANDRIA, Va. – Service members, veterans and federal employees who served between Sept. 2, 1945 and Dec. 26, 1991 are still eligible for a Cold War Recognition Certificate, said officials of the U.S. Army Personnel Command.

In fiscal year 1998, the secretary of defense approved awarding the certificate to personnel who served during the Cold War. Thus far, about one million people have responded out of the 22 million entitled to receive the certificate, officials said.

An application for the

Cold War Recognition Certificate can be found on the Internet at <https://coldwar.army.mil>. The Web site informs applicants about the correct procedures and the required documentation to receive a certificate.

Applications will only be accepted by fax or mail, officials said.

More information on the certificate can be found on PERSCOM's Cold War Web site or by calling customer service at (703) 325-5864.

(Editor's note: Information provided by PERSCOM Public Affairs.)

Showing support for soldiers

Department available for unit functions

Joseph Hamm
Directorate of Public Safety

The Fort Gordon Fire Department recently provided an engine company display and fire prevention information for an afternoon unit luncheon.

The display was at the 201st Military Intelligence Battalion, which was having an afternoon luncheon in honor of soldiers returning from Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom.

The display was a way for the fire department to show its appreciation to all servicemembers, as well as provide fire safety information.

Frequently different units on post request the fire department provide static displays, briefs, and other tasks to support events and functions the units provide for their soldiers, family members and guests.

This type of interaction gives the fire department an opportunity to show its pride, but most important allows us a chance to interact with the public and discuss fire prevention and fire safety. Having a dis-

cussion with one of the returning soldiers of the 201st, Spc. Justin Stellmacher, said that "the impact of (the fire department's) support was great for the unit, and is fantastic interaction for the children there."

When the children approach the engine and the firefighters, we enjoy talking to them and showing off our fire trucks, but equally as important is when a parent and child approach us together. This provides us a perfect opportunity to make a positive impression to families about fire safety.

The support we provided for the 201st is just one of many displays we have provided for various units on Fort Gordon. If your unit desires a display at a unit function, call 791-1206 or 791-1203. We will do everything possible to support your unit and soldiers; but pardon our absence if we must respond to an emergency call.

(Hamm is a fire inspector with the Fire and Emergency Services Division.)



Photos by Joseph Hamm

Soldiers and family members of the 201st MI Battalion gather around engine 20 and receive fire safety paraphernalia.

Good record keeping vital when PCSing

Allan Downen
Staff Judge Advocate office

A major part of a military career is moving yourself and your family on a frequent basis. This is generally a trying experience, often made worse by damage or loss to your personal possessions during the move.

The Army assists in replacing or repairing these possessions through the claims system administered by the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate.

There are several things you can do both before and after a move to make sure you are properly paid for any damages.

Sales receipts

It is a good idea to keep

sales receipts for any purchases you make over \$100. It is helpful to make an inventory of your personal possessions before you move. The inventory should show the description of the property, the date acquired and the purchase price of the item.

Take the inventory to a notary public and have the inventory dated and notarized so that you can establish the date of its preparation. If you have a collection of compact discs, phonograph albums, audio or videotapes, it is helpful to take a photograph showing all of them and to have a list of their titles.

Verify accuracy

When your household goods are picked up, the

mover prepares an inventory. That inventory lists the condition of your goods at the time of pick-up. It lists scratches, nicks, gouges, dents and the like with a letter/number combination.

The codes are usually at the top of the inventory. Make sure that the carrier's comments about the state of your possessions are accurate. If you disagree, you have the right to state on the bottom of the inventory what items are incorrectly described and why.

DD 1840

When you arrive at your new location, the moving company will give you a pink DD Form 1840. As you notice damage or missing items

during the delivery process, write them on the DD 1840. When the carrier leaves, he will take two copies of the DD 1840 with him and leave three copies with you. You have 70 days to finish unpacking and inspecting your household goods.

If during this 70 day period you notice additional missing or damaged items, write them on the reverse side of the DD 1840. The reverse side is called DD Form 1840R.

Report damages

Within 70 days of your delivery date, turn in the DD Form 1840R at the claims office, Building 29718, Office of the Staff Judge Advocate,

Room 104. Any items that have not been reported missing or damaged within 70 days will not be paid. This happens because the Army can collect from the moving company for properly reported items. If you fail to notify the Army so the carrier can be notified, the amount that could have been collected from the moving company is deducted from your claim.

On most moves the moving company is fully liable to the Army for damages. Therefore, the deduction from your claim is the full amount that you were eligible to receive.

You do not need to get estimates or have an appointment before turning in the DD Form

1840R. Calling transportation or having a government inspector look at your damage does not satisfy the requirement to turn in the DD Form 1840R. If you turn in one DD Form 1840R and notice more damages, you can report that damage on a second DD 1840R if you are still within 70 days of your delivery date.

Claims office

These rules may seem somewhat complex and confusing. If you have any questions about claims, go to the Fort Gordon claims website at <http://www.gordon.army.mil/osja/cl.htm> or call the claims office at 791-3630 or 791-6542.

(Downen is chief of the claims division for the SJA.)

Reaching new heights

Fort Gordon/Greater Augusta AUSA chapter ranks second in new corporate memberships

Sgt. Ryan Matson
Military editor

The Fort Gordon/Greater Augusta Association of the U.S. Army chapter president Bob Damen always seems to have a smile on his face. Maybe that's because his chapter is distinguishing itself on a national scale.

The chapter finished second out of the 132 AUSA chapters worldwide in terms of acquiring new corporate members for the last AUSA fiscal year, which began July 1, 2002 and ended June 30, 2003. In fact, the Fort Gordon chapter more than doubled its corporate membership, going from 40 members to 110. The 70 new corporate members ranked behind the Huntsville, Ala. chapter, which drew 72.

"We had the greatest percentage increase rate, hands down," Damen said, adding that the increases have resulted in the chapter being nominated for several national awards.

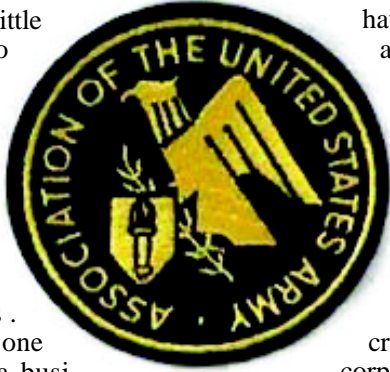
Damen explained that corporate memberships to AUSA

range from a little over \$100 to sustaining memberships of \$5,000, whereby a corporation can designate 50 members. Damen said one Augusta area business, Commercial and Military Systems, has this type of membership. Each year it retains nine of these memberships and donates the remaining 41 to soldiers on Fort Gordon, Damen said.

"That's a real generous thing they're doing," Damen said.

So why the drastic increase in corporate memberships? Damen credited the Greater Augusta Chamber of Commerce with rallying area businesses in support of AUSA and Fort Gordon.

"They have placed a strong emphasis on the relationship between the community and Fort Gordon," Damen said. "They



have worked hard at having businesses look at AUSA as a means to join an Army-related organization."

Each member of AUSA is also active in recruiting additional corporate members, Damen added.

Larry Sides is the vice president of one of AUSA's two oldest corporate members, the Georgia Bank and Trust Company, a member since 1975, along with Pratt-Dudley Building and Supply. He said he views the membership as being "civic-minded."

"Fort Gordon is such a huge part of Augusta, without it Augusta would be lost," Sides said. "We look at being an AUSA member as part of being a good corporate citizen. We have a lot of retired military customers here."

This retired military population depends on Fort Gordon

for medical care, shopping and just visiting the post. I have never been in the service, but maybe this is a way I can help out. We want to support our soldiers."

Damen explained that by helping AUSA, businesses are actually supporting the Army and, more specifically, Fort Gordon. He said on a national level, AUSA acts as "the voice of the Army," lobbying for issues directly affecting soldiers in Congress.

Locally, Damen said the Fort Gordon chapter donates money to a variety of causes on post, including soldier awards, sponsorship of the Army 10-Miler team and for sending a group of outstanding soldiers to the AUSA National Convention held each year in Washington, D.C.

Though the Fort Gordon/Greater Augusta chapter may be gaining attention for its large increase in corporate members, Damen said there is still a lot of work to be done. He said at one time, the chapter has had more than 200 corporate members.

"We're still seeking improvement," Damen said. "We're still expecting to grow."

For information on joining AUSA, call Damen at 855-0099.

SMA announces retirement

Natalie Granger
Army News Service

WASHINGTON – The Army's top enlisted soldier announced his retirement plans Aug. 6 at the Army Retirement Services conference in Crystal City, Va.

After nearly 35 years of service, Sgt. Maj. of the Army Jack Tilley announced that he will be retiring in January.

Tilley was speaking to retirement services officers and transition personnel at their biennial conference.

In his opening statement, he thanked the audience for everything they do.

"You make a difference in the attitudes of soldiers as they leave the military," Tilley said.

He went on to captivate and motivate

the audience with stories of wounded soldiers and personal experience of his retirement preparation.

Tilley focused on the importance of family and friends, and of the little things done everyday. He also stressed having faith, and staying motivated and motivating others.

"We are all leaders," Tilley said.

We need to start talking to soldiers about how to plan for retirement earlier, so that they are prepared when that time comes, he added.

Ninety-seven retirement services officers and transition personnel representing 35 installations, including some from Korea and Europe, attended the week-long conference.

This conference gives the Army Retirement Services staff a chance to teach,

mentor, and exchange ideas with personnel in the field, said retired Col. John W. Radke, chief of Army Retirement Services. It builds camaraderie, he added.

During the conference, each attendee had the opportunity to talk one-on-one with one of the five members of the Army Retirement Services headquarters staff to discuss and analyze their individual installation practices, Radke said.

A major goal for the future is to turn these individual work sessions into actual site visits to the installations, said Radke.

After Tilley spoke, Radke presented him with a certificate of appreciation.

"I have seen him speak on several occasions, and each and every time it is deeply motivating," said Radke.

"He is a soldier's soldier," Radke said.

116th receives new commander

Special to the Signal

The 116th Military Intelligence Group held a change of command July 30 at Barton Field.

Col. Robert Carr, the former coalition and joint intelligence officer for the stabilization force at Camp Butmir in Sarajevo, Bosnia-Herzegovina, took command of the 116th MI Group and the Gordon Regional Security Operations Center.

Carr succeeds Col. Daniel Daley, who departed Fort Gordon to become the senior intelligence officer for the U.S. Special Operations Command at MacDill Air Force Base, Fla.

Carr has also served as the commander of the 721st MI Battalion here.

Carr received his Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration.

He holds a masters in public administration with emphasis in comptrollership, from the University of Missouri, as well as a master's degree in strategic studies from the U.S. Army

War College.

Carr graduated in 1993 from the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College. He is also a graduate of the Combat Development Course, the Combined Arms Services Staff School, the Military Intelligence Officer Basic and Advanced Course Military Warfare Course, the Senior Cryptologic Officers Course and the Airborne Course.

Carr's awards include the Bronze Star Medal, the Defense and the Army Meritorious Service Medals, the Joint and the Army Commendation Medals, the Army Achievement Medal, the Southwest Asia Service Medal, the Kuwait Liberation Medal, the NATO medal for service in Bosnia-Herzegovina, the Joint Meritorious Unit Award, the Army Superior Unit Award and the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award.

Carr hails from Cocoa Beach, Fla. He and his wife Donna have two children – Robby, 12 and Megan, 7.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Andre' Butler

Brig. Gen. George R. Fay (*left*), commanding general, U.S. Army Intelligence and Security Command, passes the 116th MI Group colors to Col. Robert Carr, incoming commander, during the change of ceremony July 30.

Briefs and events

Dinner theatre

The Fort Gordon Dinner Theatre presents Neil Simon's all-time classic comedy *The Odd Couple*.

Show times are **Sept., 12, 13, 19, 20, 25, 26 and 27.** Dinner begins at 7 p.m. and the show at 8 p.m. Tickets range from \$12-\$30. For information, call 793-8552.

Parenting workshops

Army Community Services is having Parenting Workshops from 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Fridays at the Community Life Building 33512. Upcoming topics include:

Today – Couples Communication

Friday – Appropriate Discipline for Toddlers and Adolescents

For information call 791-0794/7557.

Air Force Ball

The 31st Intelligence Squadron (U.S. Air Force) will hold the 2003 Air Force Ball **Sept. 26** at the Sacred Heart Cultural Center in Augusta. The theme is the *Centennial of Flight*. Call 791-9662 or 791-3578 for more information or to purchase tickets.

Farmers market

Main Street Augusta holds a Farmers Market from 8 a.m.-1 p.m. **Saturdays** at the Augusta Common on 8th and Broad streets. The markets will be held Saturdays through Oct. 25. For information, call Mary Killen at 722-8000.

ACS classes

Army Community Services offers a workshop titled *Helping You and Your Children Cope with Divorce*, the second **Tuesday** of every month at Community Life Center, Building 33512, from

1-5 p.m.

ACS also offers classes for the blended family each **Thursday** from 2-4 p.m. at Community Life Center, Building 33512.

For information call 791-0794/7557.

Art show

The Morris Museum of Art is featuring *A Century of Progress: Twentieth Century Painting in Tennessee* from **Aug. 23 through Nov. 9.** Opening events include a lecture by Celia Walker, chief curator of the Cheekwood Museum of Art, at 6 p.m. Sept. 4.

For more information, call 724-7501 or go to **www.themorris.org.**

Women's Equality Day activities

The 116th Military Intelligence Group is sponsoring a Women's Equality Day 5K fun run/walk at 7 a.m. **Aug. 26.** The race will starting at the reviewing stand on Barton Field. The first 100 runners and the first 30 walkers to finish will receive T-shirts. Registration will be that morning at the reviewing stand from 6 - 6:45 a.m. For more information contact Sgt. 1st Class Richard Mitchell at 791-0921 or e-mail **rmitch@grsoc.gordon.army.mil.**

Equal Employment Opportunity is having a Women's Equality Day breakfast from 7:30-9 a.m. **Aug. 26** at the Gordon Club. Guest speaker is Marcia Glenn, the mayor of Lithonia, Ga. Call EEO at 791-4551 by Aug. 22 to purchase tickets.

The Gordon Club is having a luncheon 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m. **Aug. 26.** For information, call 791-6780.

The Women's Equality Day command program is 1:30 p.m. **Aug. 28** at Alexander Hall. The guest speaker will be Georgia Representative Sue Burmeister. For information, call 791-2014.

Help wanted

The Greater Augusta Arts Council is looking for enthusiastic, energetic volunteers to help at this year's Arts in the Heart of Augusta festival. The festival is **Sept. 19 - 21** at the Augusta Common & Riverwalk in Augusta.

More than 300 volunteers are needed for the festival. Changes this year include a new location and expanded Friday activities.

All volunteers will receive a volunteer T-shirt and free admission to the festival for the entire weekend. To volunteer call Mary Jones, Equal Opportunity Office, at 791-2014 or 791-6082.

Teen council applications sought

The Morris Museum of Art is accepting applications for the 2003-04 Teen Advisory Council. Council members learn more about art and museums, and plan museum events for their peers. Application deadline is **Sept. 1.** For information, call 724-7501; for an application, call 828-3865.

Girl Scout troops forming

Girl Scout troops are forming across the CSRA for girls ages 5-17.

Volunteers are also needed as Scout leaders. Training is provided.

Call 774-0505 for information.

TB testing

As part of an enhanced post-deployment health assessment program, all soldiers and civilians returning from a deployment are required to undergo a tuberculosis screening between three and six months after returning.

Unit commanders or representatives should contact Lt. Col. Kevin Michaels or Maj. David

Marana, preventive medicine, to plan or coordinate testing. Call 787-3547 for information.

Fitness course offered

The Health and Wellness Center offers an eight-week fitness and health education program open to Department of Army civilian employees.

The class meets **Tuesday - Oct. 10** from 3-4 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays for fitness sessions, and 3-4 p.m. Wednesdays for health education classes.

The class is limited to the first 25 people to complete and turn in paperwork. For information, contact the Health and Wellness Center at 787-6756.

Obedience lessons

The Augusta Humane Society offers a dog obedience and puppy socialization workshop beginning 6:30-7:30 p.m. **Aug. 27** at the Julian Smith Casino on Broad and Milledge streets.

Cost is \$50 for 12 weeks, \$40 for eight weeks. Bring proof of vaccinations to first meeting, but do not bring the dog. Call 736-0186 for information.

Orientation course

The Fort Gordon company and detachment commanders and first sergeants orientation course is 9 a.m.-5 p.m. **Sept. 15** in Darling Hall Room 229-B. Send an e-mail to **isond@gordon.army.mil** to register for the class, or call Sgt. 1st Class Darron Ison at 791-9536 for details.

School workshop

The Army Community Service Family Advocacy Program and School Liaison Services is having a *Preparing for School Success* workshop for parents from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. **Sept. 23.** The workshop is at Freedom Park Elementary and lunch will be provided. Reservations are

required, call 791-0794 or 791-7270.

EFMP event

The Exceptional Family Member Program meets for bowling at Gordon Lanes Bowling Center the third **Monday** of each month from 5-6:30 p.m. Come out and join the fun including door prizes and free shoe rentals. For information call 791-4872/7557.

PIE meetings set

Parent Information Exchange meetings are the fourth **Thursday** of every month in the ACS conference room from 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. A different agency is highlighted from the community to share information with parents about various medical conditions and educational issues. Call 791-4872/3579 for information about EFMP.

Business help

The Service Corps of Retired Executives provides counseling and mentoring to business people starting or expanding a business. SCORE is a non-profit, public service organization affiliated with the Small Business Administration. Call 793-9998 9 a.m.-noon Mondays through Thursdays for information.

Surviving military separation

Army Community Service offers a support group for deployed soldiers' spouses. This is an opportunity for spouses to share ideas and strategies on how to cope with stress associated with the service member's absence.

The class is held from 1-2:30 p.m. the first **Wednesday** of each month in

Darling Hall, Room 367. For information call 791-3579/7557.

Employment workshop

A weekly workshop, "Tools of Employment," is held **Tuesday** mornings to assist in resume writing, job searching, and interviewing techniques. It is strongly recommended that this two-hour workshop is attended before the job search begins.

The program manager is available for individual appointments or walk-ins and can provide individual assistance by appointment or walk-in. In the ACS lobby, job books are available containing recent recruitment actions notices of local businesses.

For more information, call 791-3579.

Pay office closed

The Defense Military Pay Office is closed Aug. 29 and Sept. 1 for Labor Day, and Sept. 5 for organization day.

For emergencies, page 241-1486.

Border Bash

The 10th Annual University of Georgia/University of South Carolina Border Bash is 7 p.m. Sept. 12 at the Augusta Common on Reynolds Street between 8th and 9th streets. The event features entertainment by the Swingin' Medallions, and the UGA and USC cheerleaders and their mascots.

Proceeds benefit the Medical College of Georgia Children's Medical Center. Admission is \$5. Gates open at 5 p.m. For more information or to volunteer, call 721-3957.

Three P’s for the present

Chaplain (Maj.) Mark Awdykowyz
Chaplain Resource Manager

Beginning with the fall of mankind in Genesis 3, we human beings have been at war with God, ourselves and our neighbors. When Jesus was questioned as to which commandment was the greatest, He said to love God with all your being and to love your neighbor as yourself. With that in mind, how can we support our troops, comfort families, encourage each other, and pray effectively?

Most of us naturally lean toward performing a task or service when we want to lend support. And I would certainly advocate putting some real “shoe leather” to your faith by doing good.

The New Testament Book of James tells us that faith without works is dead. In other words, don’t just talk about what you believe concerning God; let me see it in the way you live. Our faith should be evident in our perspective, priorities and performance.

Perspective

If my perspective is only on the present, then circumstances are going to have a profound impact on the way I live.

If, however, I have an eternal perspective through the eyes of a holy, just and sovereign God, then I rise above circumstances by God’s power and grace that

dwells within me through faith in Jesus Christ.

Therefore, the best way I can support troops in the Middle East is by being an individual who is first faithful in allowing God to have His way in my own life. Then I can become better acquainted with what is on His mind, and put His plan into action and not my own.

If we believe the war in Iraq has a biblical foundation, then we should support it by every tangible means possible. This will take creativity and personal sacrifice. Contact your unit’s Family Support Group or your unit Chaplain and ask what you can do to meet needs. When we meet needs, we show others our support.

Priorities

Show me what you make time for in your life and I’ll show you your priorities. We always make time for the things that are important to us. I have heard it said that it is more important to talk to God about others, than to talk to others about God. In other words, prayer has no substitute. Prayer is more than talking to God. Prayer is getting on my heart what is on God’s heart.

It’s intimate communion with the Father of the universe, through the finished work of Christ, in the power of the indwelling Holy Spirit. Prayer is my way of allowing God to change me so I can become a clean vessel for His purposes. It is not a wish list, a

time of bartering, or the “genie in a bottle” mentality. God knows everything about me and wants me to pour out my heart to Him completely.

And when we pray the Word of God, we will always pray according to the will of God. As this war on terrorism continues, I believe we should pray that God would be glorified and that lives would be eternally changed for the better.

Performance

Now that we have an eternal perspective, and have prayer as our foundational priority, we can perform a service to others that is truly God driven and God honoring. We can comfort families by sending them notes of appreciation for sacrifice, befriending those who are alone, offering a hug or a listening ear to those who are in pain.

We can weep with those who weep and rejoice with those who rejoice. We can be vulnerable and share our own experiences and how God used them to bring us where we are today. We can pray with them from a genuine prayer experience of our own.

Be positive in your perspective when speaking about the war, resist all negativity; and be an advocate for our troops. Cultivate a maturing prayer life; learn what it means to become a clean vessel that is useful to the Master. Perform service to others where you are gifted; everyone can do something.

Veterans Affairs proposes overhaul

Special to American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON – The Department of Veterans Affairs is asking an independent commission to review a plan devised to reshape the way the department handles veterans’ health care.

The draft plan stems from a VA study called Capital Asset Realignment for Enhanced Services, or CARES. VA Secretary Anthony Principi presented the draft national CARES plan to the CARES Commission in Washington Aug. 4. The commission will review the plan and conduct hearings before presenting its report to Principi for a final decision, which is expected by the end of the year.

“VA’s mission to provide quality health care for America’s veterans has not changed since its inception,” said Dr. Robert Roswell, VA’s undersecretary for health. “But how that job is done – at what kind of facilities, where they are located and which types of procedures are used – has seen dynamic change as a result of medical advances, modern health care trends, veteran migration and other factors.”

VA officials said a July 1999 General Accounting Office study found the department was spending a million dollars a day on unneeded or unused facilities, so CARES was developed to identify an infrastructure that would better serve veterans’ health-care needs in the 21st century.

Principi said those infrastructure changes “may come with difficult choices.”

“As VA enters the process of making these choices in communities across the country, it is important to remember the broad outcomes it seeks – more effective use of VA resources to provide more care to more veterans in places where veterans need it the most,” Principi said.

Among changes the plan proposes:

□ Closing VA hospitals in Canandaigua, N.Y.; Pittsburgh (Highland Drive); Lexington, Ky. (Leestown); Brecksville, Ohio; Gulfport, Miss.; Livermore, Calif.; and Waco, Texas.

□ Opening new hospitals in Las Vegas and Orlando, Fla.

□ Adding centers for the blind in Biloxi, Miss., and Long Beach, Calif.

□ Creating new spinal-cord injury centers in Denver; Minneapolis; Syracuse or Albany, N.Y.; and Little Rock, Ark.

The first commission hearing on the plan was scheduled Tuesday, according to the CARES Web site.

(Based on a VA release.)

Pentagon Memorial needs extra effort to meet campaign goal

Sgt. 1st Class Doug Sample
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON – The campaign goal to raise \$1 million for a Sept. 11 victim’s memorial at the Pentagon is hundreds of thousands of dollars short. The campaign, which began July 21, was scheduled to end Aug. 8.

“Right now we’re nowhere close,” said Steve Kelly of the Volunteer Campaign Management Office for the Pentagon Memorial Fundraiser. “Now is the time to give.”

The \$1 million is needed so that engineers and architects

at the Pentagon Renovation Program can begin the memorial’s design and engineering phase. DoD officials plan to have the Pentagon Memorial completed by the spring of 2005.

During the past three weeks, Kelly and about 20 campaign managers from agencies in and near the Pentagon have been frantically handing out flyers, either in person or electronically, to persuade the Pentagon’s more than 25,000 employees and those nearby to give to a worthy cause.

“They are all trying to get the word out in collecting

money,” he said. Through Friday, Kelly plans to set up donation tables at the Pentagon center courtyard and on the main concourse. Those outside the building should see their agency’s campaign managers. Or they and those outside the metropolitan area should send checks to:

Director, Budget and Finance, WHS Attn: Pentagon Memorial, Room 3B269, 1155 Defense Pentagon Washington, D.C. 20301-1155.

Although it formally ended Friday, Kelly said the \$1 million campaign drive will accept contributions until today. After then, he said that do-

nors should access the memorial’s Web site. “Anyone can give,” he said.

Over the next two years, the Pentagon Memorial Campaign is hoping to raise \$20 million to cover the project’s cost. DoD officials have said between \$10 million to \$12 million will go toward construction and the rest will be used for maintenance.

The memorial will be built on nearly two acres of land on the Pentagon’s west side along the path of American Airlines Flight 77 just before it hit the building.

Kelly said that he remains hopeful that this will be a

big week for contributions.

“We could be kicking in a lot of money by Friday,” he noted.

Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld taped a message July 31 encouraging people to donate to the campaign. “In the years ahead, millions of Americans will see this moving memorial and think back to what happened on Sept. 11,” he stated.

“And they will remember our brave men and women in uniform who rose to the challenge in the months that followed. They will be reminded that our country cannot be free unless we are

strong.”

Rumsfeld observed that Jim Laychak whose brother died in the attack, said it well at the campaign’s kickoff. He quoted Laychak as saying, “We have one chance to do this right - a chance to build a great memorial, a place of remembrance for those who died, a place of comfort for those of us left behind.”

The Pentagon Memorial will be constructed entirely from private contributions. Rumsfeld said no tax dollars will be involved in the building of this memorial, “so we need volunteers to step up.”

Drill sergeant spotlight

Name: Sgt. 1st Class Henry Sevion

Unit: Company B, 551st Signal Battalion

Hometown: Montgomery, Ala.

Time at Fort Gordon: Four years

What do you enjoy about being a DS? Training soldiers and sharing my military knowledge with them, and showing them how to be the best soldier possible by setting the example.

What do you want to accomplish in the Army? I want to successfully complete my tour as a third year drill sergeant and achieve the rank of command sergeant major, and then retire.



Sgt. 1st Class Sevion

Student loan program provides education

The Army’s Loan Repayment Program is a special enlistment incentive that the Army offers to highly qualified applicants at the time of enlistment.

Under the LRP, the Army will repay up to \$65,000 of a soldier’s qualifying student loans. To be eligible, the LRP must be guaranteed in writing in the enlistment contract.

The LRP may be offered as an enlistment incentive if the service member meets the following eligibility criteria:

□ Be a non-prior service accession.

□ Enlist with a high school diploma.

□ Have an Armed Forces Qualification Test score of 50 or higher on the ASVAB.

□ Enlist in a critical mili-

tary occupational specialty.

□ Possess a loan that was made, insured or guaranteed under the Higher Education Act of 1965, Title IV, Part B, D, or E and prior to entering active duty.

Student loans which qualify for the LRP are Stafford loans, Perkins loans, William D. Ford loans, supplemental loans for students, Parent Loans for Undergraduate Students, and consolidated loans (only loans incurred for the soldier’s education).

Before repayments under the LRP can begin, the Education Incentives and Counseling Branch of Headquarters Army Continuing Education System must receive loan verification information from the soldier and the current

loan holders.

EICB will send the soldier a LRP packet that contains a DD Form 2475.

This form must be filled out in part by the soldier and then by the loan holder. Only after EICB receives all completed forms and verifies that the loan(s) qualify for LRP will authorization for repayment be approved. If you were promised the LRP and have been on active duty at least eight months, and have not received the LRP packet from EICB you should bring your enlistment contract to the Education Center so a counselor can contact EICB in order for you to get the LRP packet.

Student loans will be paid off over the first three years

of your first enlistment. Payment will be 33.3 percent or \$1,500, whichever is greater, on the total remaining original unpaid principal balance, after each completed year of active duty (up to \$55,000 for those enlisting April 28, 1992 to Feb. 3, 1997 or up to \$65,000 as of Feb. 4, 1997). It is the borrower’s responsibility to make sure the student loan(s) are in deferment or forbearance. The borrower makes these arrangements with the loan holder. The loan will not be repaid if it is in default.

For assistance or questions see a counselor at the Education Center, Building 21606, Barnes Avenue.

(Courtesy the Fort Gordon Education Center.)

Viewpoint

Information, Opinions, and Commentary

World must come together to defeat terrorism

Gerry Gilmore
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON – Recent terrorist bombings of a major hotel in Jakarta, Indonesia, and at the Jordanian embassy in Baghdad underline the need for nations to unite to fight global terrorism, the senior U.S. diplomat said here today.

These, and other terrorist acts conducted around the globe serve as a reminder that “the civilized world must come together to defeat this scourge of terrorism in whatever manner it manifests itself,” U.S. Secretary of State Colin L. Powell told reporters gathered at the Foreign Press Center.

News reports have cited the Aug. 5 car bombing at Jakarta’s Marriott Hotel as having killed 15 people and wounding about 150. Jemaah Islamiyah, a Southeast Asian terror group with links to Osama bin Laden’s al Qaeda organization, news reports say, claimed responsibility for the attack.

And that group reportedly masterminded last year’s nightclub bombing in Bali.

The global community cannot move into the 21st century “and work hard to provide hope to people as long as these kinds of incidents take place,” Powell emphasized.

Powell told reporters that he had contacted the Jordanian foreign minister to offer U.S. condolences for today’s car bombing at the Jordanian embassy in Baghdad that killed almost a dozen people.

The United States, Powell asserted, regrets “the injuries to Jordanian personnel” caused by the bombing “as well as the loss of life of innocent Iraqi citizens who were just out in the street going about their business when this terrorist act took place.”

President Bush “has made it clear he will stay with this campaign against terrorism,” Powell emphasized, adding, “We will unite the world” in combating terrorists.

And, Powell maintained, “a great deal of progress” has been accomplished lately in the fight against global terrorism. For example, he noted, scores of suspected terrorist operatives have been arrested in Saudi Arabia and numerous caches of weapons have been seized.

“We’ve seen similar actions in other countries,” Powell observed, noting America and its allies “will not be deterred” in continuing global anti-terror

operations.

“We’ll certainly not be defeated and we’re ever more determined to go after them wherever they are until this scourge is dealt with,” he vowed.

Although the civilized world continues to be challenged by terrorism, today is also “a time of hope and promise,” Powell observed.

For example, he noted, Iraq’s people have been freed from the yoke of a dictator. Iraqis of all ages are returning to their schools and universities. The country’s electric power is being restored, he continued, noting that “the infrastructure is being rebuilt, the economy is starting to function.”

And the recently established Iraqi Governing Council, Powell continued, “is an important first step” in returning full sovereignty to the Iraqi people.

U.S. and coalition forces won’t stay in Iraq any longer than necessary, he observed. However, those forces will remain in Iraq “long enough,” Powell emphasized, to enable the Iraqis to es-

tablish their own representative form of government that safeguards the country’s wealth for its citizens.

“We’re making good progress in that regard, even though as we see on our (TV) screens today there are still difficulties ahead,” he pointed out.

He praised U.S. and coalition forces in Iraq, noting that “they are determined to do their job and they are competent to do the job” of restoring security throughout the country.

However, Powell pointed out Saddam loyalists and other insurgents in Iraq are still “determined to deny the Iraqis their desire for peace and a better life and for a new country.”

“We will continue to deal with the security threat (in Iraq) and use whatever techniques that are appropriate,” he continued, noting that U.S. and coalition forces would adjust tactics to suit the situation.

Powell, a former chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, observed that in time, more and more information will be gathered to pinpoint those responsible for instigating attacks on U.S. and coalition personnel in Iraq and sabotaging the country’s infrastructure.

Therefore, “slowly but surely,” he asserted, U.S., coalition and Iraqi forces “will isolate” the insurgents and stabi-

lize the security situation in Iraq.

Turning to North Korea’s purported nuclear weapons and ballistic missile programs, Powell told reporters that the United States and its allies seek a peaceful solution to the issue. He also stressed there’s no credence to North Korean assertions that the United States plans an invasion.

Powell maintained there’s no chance the United States would arrange a non-aggression pact or treaty with North Korea to address its concerns about invasion. However, he did say that a U.S. congressional resolution that disavows any intent of conducting such an attack could be employed to assuage the North Korean government.

He said the governments of Syria and Iran should do more to prevent terrorist organizations that operate within their borders from planning and mounting attacks to torpedo the Israeli-Palestinian peace process, and from orchestrating other acts of violence and dissent across other areas of the Middle East.

And the Iraqi Governing Council, Powell emphasized, should be recognized by senior Arab leaders across the Middle East “as an important step” toward the establishment of a free, democratic Iraq.

“We will unite the world” in combating terrorists.

‘Stolen valor’ dishonors heroes

Lt. Col. Stan Heath
Army News Service

ALEXANDRIA, Va. – Medals for valor are paid for with sweat, blood, and in too many cases with the ultimate sacrifice for our country.

Surviving families don’t ask for a crisply folded flag or a posthumous award for their loved ones’ bravery. They would much rather have their soldier home and out of harm’s way.

We recently learned that all citizens don’t understand the true meaning of integrity regarding medals for valor. The U.S. Army Personnel Command awards branch recently assisted the FBI in bringing to closure an allegation that a Rhode Island man had fabricated documents to upgrade his Bronze Star to the Distinguished Service Cross.

Unbeknownst to the Army, a congressman presented a fake certificate and store-bought DSC to him in 2000. The veteran’s secret went undiscovered for three years. The Vietnam veteran recently admitted that he fraudulently created a letter from the Army to a congressman advising him that the Army had awarded him the DSC, the military’s second-highest honor.

“Actions of stolen valor dishonor all warriors whose valorous deeds have earned them every citizen’s respect, appreciation and love for protecting our way of life,” said retired Col. Roger Donlon.

Donlon, the first Vietnam Medal of Honor recipient, was a captain in 1964. He commanded Special Forces Detachment A-726 at Camp Nam

Dong when a Viet Cong battalion attacked the camp. Donlon was awarded the Medal of Honor by President Lyndon Johnson in 1965.

“Medals of valor are never won, they are earned in actions against a hostile enemy and these actions go above and beyond the call of duty. Every recipient of such an award accepts these sacred honors with the highest sense of responsibility. They dedicate themselves to upholding the dignity of each award for all who have served honorably and continue to serve.”

Freedom isn’t free and valor awards are not meant to be bought and sold or engraved in trophy shops.

(Heath is the public affairs officer for the U.S. Army Personnel Command.)

Bush: It will take more than 100 days to undo Saddam’s legacy

Jim Garamone
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON – President Bush praised the progress coalition military and civilian personnel have been able to make in Iraq, but said that 100 days is not enough time to undo the legacy of Saddam Hussein.

In his weekly radio address Aug. 9, Bush noted that it is but 100 days since the end of major combat operations in Iraq. He said the time has been marked by steady progress.

“Every day we are working to make Iraq more secure,” Bush said. “Coalition forces remain on the offensive against the Baath Party loyalists and foreign terrorists who are trying to prevent order and stability.” He said the progress is evident to the Iraqi people as more and more are cooperating with coalition forces and tipping them to the regime remnants still threatening peace.

Iraqis themselves are help-

ing with security. Coalition officials said there are about 30,000 Iraqi police back on the beat, and coalition officials have begun to recruit a new army and a civil defense force.

“Every day, Iraq is making progress in rebuilding its economy,” he said. “In Baghdad, the banks have opened, and other banks will open across the country in the coming months. This fall, new bank notes will be issued, replacing the old ones bearing the former dictator’s image. And Iraq’s energy industry is once again serving the interests of the Iraqi people. More than a million barrels of crude oil and over 2 million gallons of gasoline are being produced daily.”

The coalition is paying civil servants with funds recovered from the former regime, and life is returning to normal for the Iraqi people. Bush said hospitals and universities have opened, and in many places, water and other utility services

are reaching pre-war levels.

“Across Iraq, nearly all schoolchildren have completed their exams,” he said. “And for the first time in many years, a free press is at work in Iraq. Across that country today, more than 150 newspapers are publishing regularly.”

But most important, the Iraqi people are taking daily steps toward democratic government, the president noted. “The Iraqi Governing Council, whose 25 members represent all of that diverse country, is meeting regularly, naming ministers and drawing up a budget for the country,” he said. These men and women will soon set the conditions to allow a representative group to begin drafting a new constitution and free elections will follow.

Bush pointed out that all major cities and most towns now have representative councils. “Freedom is taking hold in that country, as people gain confidence that the former regime is never coming back,” he said.

But much remains to be done. Bush emphasized. “There is difficult and dangerous work ahead that requires time and patience,” he said. “Our country and the nations of the Middle East are now safer. We’re keeping our word to the Iraqi people by helping them to make their country an example of democracy and prosperity throughout the region. This long-term undertaking is vital to peace in that region and to the security of the United States. Our coalition and the people of Iraq have made remarkable progress in a short time, and we will complete the great work we have begun.”



The Signal

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Room 209, 520 Chamberlain Ave., Fort Gordon, Ga. 30905-5735
Civilian Printer: Citizen Newspapers
Publisher: Roy F. Chalker Jr.
General Manager: Bonnie K. Taylor
Sales Representative: Faye Watkins and Deborah Kitchens

This Civilian Enterprise Newspaper is an authorized publication for all personnel at Fort Gordon. Contents of *The Signal* are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, the Department of Defense, the Department of the Army, or the U.S. Army Signal

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The contracting officer serves as

liaison between the civilian printer and the commanding general. Letters to the editor must be signed with the author’s printed name and address included.

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Distribution on post is free, and circulation is 18,500 per week.

My PLDC experience

Sgt. Ryan Matson
Military editor

Every now and again, I get the chance to write about an Army experience I've had that I found especially interesting.

Back in October, I was afforded the opportunity to run in the Army 10-Miler, so I decided that was something worthy of sharing with readers. Then, in April when I covered the Master's professional golf tournament downtown, I figured this was another once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to tell others about.

This time I've decided to write about something a little different, something that most enlisted soldiers will go through if they stay in long enough. I just got back from the Primary Leadership Development Course and decided it might be beneficial to the up-and-coming specialists to write about what PLDC is like for when they attend.

I guess it's logical to start

at the beginning. If you're at Fort Gordon, before you go to PLDC, you have a unique opportunity to get a heads-up on PLDC that most installations do not offer to their soldiers. This is called Pre-PLDC, and it is a week-long course hosted by the 206th Military Intelligence Battalion. Initially, when I learned I had to attend this course, I must admit I thought it was a bit ridiculous. I thought to myself, "Why can't I just go to PLDC?"

Well, now that I've been through PLDC, I realize how important that training was.

The course focuses on things like land navigation, which has been known to send many a soldier home from PLDC. The good thing about Pre-PLDC is that, even though it is only a week long, it spends roughly the same amount of time covering land navigation as the actual PLDC course does (about three days).

Without sounding disrespectful to my teachers at PLDC, I would actually say that the

classroom instruction I received on land navigation here from Staff Sgt. Joseph Linde was even better than that I received at PLDC at Fort Benning. Everything was covered so meticulously and in such a simple step-by-step manner that there was no doubt I knew how to use a compass, protractor and map before I went, which meant it was one less thing I had to worry about when I got there.

Pre-PLDC also covered drill and ceremony, which helped me immensely because I march like a drunk on crutches.

For more information on Pre-PLDC, contact Staff Sgt. Craig Dukes at 791-9693.

Now on to PLDC itself. Before I left, fellow soldiers told me PLDC was a lot like basic training, but I did not find this to be 100 percent true. When we arrived at Fort Benning, no drill sergeant rushed the bus and ordered us to put our bags over our heads for the reason of being a lowly mag-

got unworthy of looking at them. From day one, your instructors, called Small Group Leaders, refer to you as "sergeant," and you call them the same.

At times, when you're facing the earth, giving the ground some love, you may feel as if you are being treated like a private, but this is usually because you have been acting like one, or your entire platoon has behaved like a pack of morons.

As long as you keep your room squared away and do what you're told, the whole thing goes rather smoothly.

With that said, PLDC is meant to be stressful, since when you assume new responsibilities, an added degree of stress will follow. If you are going to lead and

help others, PLDC teaches a soldier they need to be prepared for that.

Also, like basic training, you will be assigned to various details at PLDC. Some may seem asinine at the time, but you are only there for 30 days, and if you do your best at everything you're told, from marching to raking leaves, you'll be all right.

The coolest thing about PLDC for me was the people I met. My second day at PLDC, I was introduced to a new breed of human life. This unique species of mankind is known as the Army Ranger. They made PLDC both fun and humorous because of their crazy antics. At first, we feared them; later we grew to learn from them and respect them.

My first encounter with a Ranger came the second morning of PLDC when a bald, muscular, demonic-looking character shoved a broom into my chest and told me to "sweep the freaking latrine...now."

The Rangers might have seemed unapproachable at first, but throughout the course, I found them to be the biggest team players in the course. They shared the vast amount of knowledge they have on things like land nav with the other students, and if you took little tips from them here and there, things seemed a little easier and more fun. They also taught you things that had nothing to do with the course, like how to hang upside down from trees, but that's beside the point.

Aside from the Rangers, there was a wide scope of individuals to learn from. One of the students in our course was an NCO in the Polish army, and had served under two different types of governments while in uniform. The history you could



Members of my platoon draw out a battle plan during the PLDC field training exercise.

before graduation, where you dressed up and mingled with your classmates, people you might not get to see again, and enjoy their company. I actually even got a coin from the PLDC first sergeant for telling ridiculous childhood stories.

To top it all off, we had a field training exercise near the end of the course where our SGLs holed up in a small village of vacant buildings and we had to devise a strategy, flush them out and shoot them with a variety of weapons with blank ammunition. This was particularly enjoyable for me, since for a lot of the mission I got to shoot a .240-caliber machine gun. The whole experience brought the class closer together as a team.

Before this turns into a novel, I should wrap this up and offer my final thoughts. If you are about to go to PLDC the best advice I can offer is learn land nav and the other essentials you need to complete the course. Get in shape if you're not. Pay attention and try your best at whatever you're learning. Take as many extra uniforms and items on the packing list as you can carry, because you may lose some or not have enough time to wash them.

And above all, though it may seem to be a pain in the neck at times, enjoy yourself. Get to know those around you, and remember any event can be fun and an opportunity to learn.

212 ways to be a Soldier

A day in the life of a... 96B intelligence analyst

Staff Sgt. Kelly McCargo
93rd Signal Brigade

The intelligence analyst, or 96B, is primarily responsible for supervising, coordinating, and participating in the analysis, processing, and distribution of strategic and tactical intelligence for a commander.

"Intelligence is refined information that is broken down into parts that is determined to be pertinent to the commander," said Staff Sgt. Kent McQueen, HHC, 93rd Signal Brigade, intelligence analyst NCO. The intelligence analyst's advanced individual training is at Fort Huachuca, Ariz. and lasts about 17 weeks.

Analysts receive their information from various intelligence sources, McQueen said. With that information, it is their job to ask and to answer the relevant questions, before their commanders do.

"The information could be any number of things — matrices, operation graphics, etc.," he said. This information is broken down to produce an intelligence brief for the commander, which will provide a precise picture of the threat or enemy.

Without an analyst, there is a possibility that the commander could ultimately make a crucial decision that would cost service members their lives, said McQueen.

"Commanders need questions answered that are decisive for maneuver," he said. "According to Sun Tzu's book *The Art of War*, maneuver is one of the most



Staff Sgt. Kent McQueen (left), HHC, 93rd Signal Brigade, intelligence analyst NCOIC, prepares for the 93rd Sig. Bde. weekly operations and intelligence brief at Fort Gordon Aug. 6.

difficult aspects of war. Maneuvering basically means the moving of soldiers; securing key terrain, and putting soldiers in the defensive," said McQueen.

So what are the rewards of the job? "Being right!" said McQueen. "Generally, a lot of analysts provide caution because if we're wrong it could cost soldiers their lives. And I don't ever plan on failing my fellow soldiers.

"Analysts should look at their jobs in those terms and realize how important their roles are in the grand picture of the military," he said.

Security goes hand in hand with an intelligence analyst.

Physical and personal security are issues that should be addressed every day, McQueen said.

"The issue is not so much as whether the door is locked, but unlocked," he said.

Ineffective key control can lead to the wrong individuals gaining access to areas where they don't belong. It can lead to soldiers, who live in barracks, getting their valuables or military equipment stolen, thus, affecting mission readiness, said McQueen.

Soldiers should also consider security issues, like operational security, terrorism, subversion, and espionage directed against the

Army, or SAEDA, he said.

"If it doesn't look or sound right, then it's wrong," he said. "Question it and report it. Not reporting it is just as wrong as committing the offense."

But be careful when approaching each situation, McQueen said.

Aside from a future career with the civilian intelligence agencies, analysts have found success as lawyers, statisticians, marketing managers, advertising executives, mathematicians, computer programmers, computer scientists, reporters, social workers or counselors.

Eligible Type O blood donors needed

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — The Armed Services Blood Program needs eligible Type O blood donors to support ongoing military operations worldwide and to replenish the military's frozen blood reserves.

"Type O donors are the first line of defense for trauma victims. Until a blood type can be verified, Type O blood is used to keep trauma victims alive," said Air Force Lt. Col. Ruth Sylvester, Armed Services Blood Program director. "Once their blood type is determined, type-specific blood is transfused. But without Type O blood available, many patients would never make it until the test results came back."

A single battlefield injury victim can require more than 40 units of blood in an emergency. Type O donors are especially important to readiness because their blood can be transfused safely for all blood types, especially in remote areas where it's not possible to test for blood type.

The Armed Services Blood Program also needs Type O blood to maintain its frozen blood reserve. The military maintains a supply of frozen red

blood cells to use when fresh blood is not immediately available. Since frozen blood can be safely stored for up to 10 years, it ensures that blood is always readily available to meet the military's needs worldwide.

Extending the shelf life of blood from 42 days (for liquid red cells) to 10 years in strategic locations enables the blood program to make frozen blood available until the supply of liquid blood begins to flow. But storage requirements and thawing equipment needed to use frozen blood prevent it from being used everywhere.

Making the present need more acute is that the military blood donor centers can only collect blood from active duty service members, government employees, retirees and military family members. That excludes many Operation Iraqi Freedom veterans, who are deferred from donating for one year because they served in areas where malaria is endemic.

For more information on donating or sponsoring a group blood drive, call 787-1014.

(Based on a release from Army Surgeon General's office, executive agent for the Armed Services Blood Program.)

Dubious scams target families of deployed troops

Army News Service

WASHINGTON – Recent press accounts have reported that Army family members in a number of states allegedly received calls or visits from imposters over the past few months stating that deployed soldiers had been killed or injured.

However reports about scam artists knocking on doors and asking spouses for personal documents have not been confirmed by investigators and officials said they may be the product of rumor or circular reporting.

Only one such incident in Colorado Springs is being investigated by the U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Command and that incident occurred in April when two women in Army dress uniforms allegedly knocked on the door of an Army wife and when no one answered, they went next door and spoke to a neighbor. But the neighbor who made the allegations has not cooperated with investigators and CID has been unable to substantiate the story, said Marc Raimondi, CID spokesman.

“CID takes allegations of criminal wrong-doing against soldiers and their families very seriously”, said Raimondi. “We will continue to work closely with family support group leaders and local authorities to investigate reports such as this,” he said.

Officials at the U.S. Army Per-

sonnel Command stressed that casualty-notification officers would never ask to see personal documents when notifying next of kin, and they said that when a soldier is killed, the notification is not made by telephone.

“The families are under enough stress,” said PERSCOM’s Shari Lawrence. “There just aren’t any adjectives to describe how difficult that (the notification hoax) is for families.”

Operation Iraqi Freedom is not the first time that hoax notifications have been made, unfortunately, Lawrence said. “It happened during Desert Storm and Just Cause in Panama.”

During Desert Storm, an elderly couple in Virginia answered their door and found two youths dressed in Army physical training uniforms, Lawrence said. The PT-clad imposters told the couple that their son had been shot and was arriving at the local airport. After the couple drove off toward the airport, their home was burglarized.

Families who receive suspicious calls or visits should immediately check with their soldier’s unit, said Maj. Joe Golden, commander of the rear detachment of the 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, at Fort Carson, Colo. Golden said his unit has a staff duty officer available all night who could quickly check the

veracity of a casualty report and put family members at ease.

Family members who receive hoax calls often experience emotional trauma because they believe the bad news, said Sue Richter, vice president of the Armed Forces Emergency Services American Red Cross at Falls Church, Va.

“In the case of an elderly family member or a family member who is in bad health, it’s really hard to say just how dangerous this could be to them or what kind of effects it could have on them,” said Richter.

The Red Cross does not notify the next of kin when military members are wounded or killed in action,” Richter said.

When a soldier is wounded in a military operation, the next of kin is normally notified over the telephone by a doctor or medical specialist, said Deryline Watts, a casualty officer at Fort Carson.

“Usually it will be the doctor or someone taking care of the soldier who understands the situation and can explain it who makes the call,” said Watts. “If (the soldiers are) well enough, they can make the call themselves.”

When a soldier is killed, normally the notification is made by one or more soldiers in Class A uniforms, with a chaplain if one is available, Watts said. If families have any doubts as to whether the notifica-

tion is real or a hoax, Watts suggested asking the notification team for identification.

A separate person, a casualty assistance officer, makes funeral arrangements and helps set up benefits and assists with applying for unpaid pay and hiring attorneys. The casualty-assistance officer may ask for information to speed the benefit application process, including dates of birth, addresses of other relatives and social security numbers of children.

But that comes later and documents are never requested at the time of notification, Lawrence said.

The casualty assistance officer will stay with the family of the deceased until after the funeral to ensure all needs are met.

Anyone approached by a suspicious person claiming to have information about their deployed spouse should call the military police or local law-enforcement agency immediately, Watts said.

Those who receive suspicious phone calls can also try to trace the call, Richter said. She explained that many phone companies have resources that might be able to find out where the call originated.

(Spc. Matt Millham, of the 14th Public Affairs Detachment at Fort Carson, Colo., contributed to this article along with Spc. Jonathan Stack, associate editor of the Frontline newspaper at Fort Stewart, Ga.)

Laos

From page 1A

She said her parents don’t worry too much about their children in the military.

“They are proud of us,” she said.

“This is the land of opportunity. I get upset when people say (bad things about the U.S.). Coming here gave us better jobs and better opportunities. I don’t know how Laos is now, but when we left it was poor,” said Carter. She said her family had to gather whatever food they could to eat – at times just rice and tea – and walked everywhere they went. That’s why, she said, two of her favorite things about the United States are food and transportation.

One of the things she loves is her family. Her husband, Jason Carter, got out of the Army in April. They have a 20-month-old daughter, Megan. Carter said she couldn’t imagine raising her daughter in the kind of situation she grew up in.

“I would be glad to do the same thing my parents did for us (for my daughter),” she said. “My parents were really brave. They made us stick together, and have always encouraged us to do our best.”

Carter said she is glad they made the long, hard, dangerous journey to the states.

“(America has been everything I imagined) and more,” said Carter. “This country did not just give us freedom but also a better way of life.”

EUCOM Transformation may send soldiers back to States

Staff Sgt. Marcia Triggs

Army News Service

WASHINGTON – Moving troops out of Germany and positioning them closer to terror threats is part of the transformational plan for U.S. Europe Command.

“We don’t foresee a war in Germany. So, why have a large force there,” said Air Force Gen. Chuck Wald, the U.S. Europe Command deputy commander. “We have to face the fact that there is a new threat, and to address the new threat takes a different type of strategy, force and a different displacement of troops,” Wald said.

In 1989 there were 315,000 active-duty troops in

Europe. Today there are 106,000 in Europe, not counting those in the Balkans. Transformation has already begun, Wald said. The Air Force and Navy have already dramatically downsized, he added.

The Army is looking at one of three options, Wald said. Some soldiers will either stay in the EUCOM area of operations, go back to the States or go to countries like Bulgaria, Romania or Lithuania — all former Soviet-bloc countries and republics — or to the continent of Africa.

Most will go back to the States and rotate to the east on a six-month rotational basis, Wald added.

Department of the Army officials were not able to provide a timeline because the plan causes for operational decisions that are still under review.

The Marine Corps general who has been commanding EUCOM since January is devising a plan that would place troops closer to terrorist hotspots and in the backyard of NATO allies who are in need of developing a stronger military force.

“The possibility exists that we may have to shift some of our forces and basing assets to give us the flexibility, agility and ability to project power in areas where new challenges are emerging,” said Gen. James Jones, EUCOM commander, in

an open letter to service members, civilians and their families under his command.

Within the next year seven more countries are scheduled to become NATO allies, Wald said. “We need to set programs in place to help countries where the government, military and police force isn’t as mature, and it’s easy for the terrorist to come and go.”

Just a few years ago there was not a military threat in Africa, Wald said. However, the proliferation of terrorist training camps was unpredictable, he said.

“Now we need to develop a habitual relationship with Africa. Also set up forward operating locations so we can train

and train them so they can protect their borders and capture terrorist themselves.”

Even though Africa often goes through civil strife, missions in Africa will be to deter terrorists, Wald said. There are many other countries that have armies that can certainly perform peacekeeping missions. The Army needs to do operations on the high-end of the spectrum, he added.

The Army can do peacekeeping, but they’re too good for that, Wald said.

“The threat is that Al Queda alone has trained between 25,000 to 70,000 terrorists,” he said. “Then the true dilemma is that who can say that Syria isn’t going to pose a

threat in the Middle East. No one can say that North Korea is all of a sudden not a threat. We don’t know what China is going to do.”

Change in the EUCOM theater will not happen for change’s sake, Wald said, but because it makes sense.

“For example, Grafenwoher has a world-class irreplaceable range,” he said. “What good would it do to give something like that up just to say you did it. It’s the same thing with Ramstein or Stuttgart,” Wald said.

There will remain a military presence in Germany, it just hasn’t been decided what size the force will be, he added.

UIT

From page 1A

“The goal is to eventually have all TRADOC and DoD organizations run virtual training programs for all MOSs,” said Pennington.

Fort Gordon also houses the University Resource Center that is designed as a central location to push the information out to virtual campuses all over the world. The URC’s mission is to provide Signal soldiers with the newest educational and training materials using the Internet.

Soldiers can access simulation and web-based training software and databases from the center’s digital library that provides comprehensive search capability.

Since PC-based simulation software is being built at the same time the actual equipment is being built, Signal soldiers in training get to use the latest equipment virtually.

The use of simulations allows the UIC to accomplish its education and training requirements at a much lower cost. Currently there are two new simulations on schedule to be delivered this month, the AN/GSC-52 and the 31U (FBCB2).

“These are some of the best equipment simulations that the Army has ever seen. All future simulations will look similar to these,” said Maj. Keith Perkins, chief of simulations and lifelong learning.

Signal classes are currently being held at the School of Information Technology in Cobb Hall and Dixon Hall, however, there’s a new \$24 million building project on the docket now which is scheduled to go up within the next few years, said Pennington.

The project proposes an extension to both Cobb and Dixon Halls that will connect the two buildings and serve as the Headquarters for the UIT.

JSIPP

From page 1A

with different levels of ability. Training will help in leveling the knowledge base.

A large portion of the training money, between \$225,000 and \$250,000, is earmarked for developing a local training facility for the installation and local civilian first responders, said Houpt.

The rest will be used to conduct training for the fire department, emergency medical services, military police and medical response teams with the Medical College of Georgia’s basic and advance life support program.

Houpt said Fort Gordon received its money in March and has to have all of it spent before Wednesday.

JSIPP specific training begins next month with the Consequence Management 2003 exercise Sept. 20-26.

Houpt said this training would be behind the scenes for the most part and will focus on communications and other means of communicating besides cellular phones and conventional phone lines. In the event of a large-scale disaster, these communication means are often cut off.

A more visible exercise will be held six weeks in October and November. The U.S. Army Chemical School will conduct the training. It will include people in an eight state region and bring in officials from all levels of government – local, state and federal.

Homeland security chiefs from several states will be on hand for the event.

“Fort Gordon has a critical (communications) piece in this,” said Houpt.

Sports & Leisure

Sports UPDATE

Lacrosse meeting

The Aiken-Augusta Lacrosse Club practices **Aug. 24 and Sept. 7** in both Aiken and Augusta. The club is open to players of all abilities.

Call 733-4271 or 854-1908 for information.

Ladies golf schedule

Thursdays are ladies golf days at Gordon Lakes Golf Course. Tee time is 8 a.m. For information, call Pauline Blandeburgo at 863-3747.

Riding lessons

Horse riding lessons are available at Hilltop Riding Stables for ages six and older. Group lessons for three or more people are \$15 per person, per lesson on **Thursdays**.

Private lessons are \$25 per person, per lesson, and semi-private lessons for two people are \$20 per person, per lesson on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. Call 791-4864 for details.

Ski club meets

The Augusta Ski and Outing Club, for people who enjoy camping, cycling, and other outdoor recreation, meets the first **Tuesday** of each month.

Call 651-1556 for details.

Referees wanted

The Augusta Ice Hockey Association is accepting applications for ice hockey officials. Applicants must have a working knowledge of ice hockey rules and be able to skate; the association will train and certify.

For information call 556-3091 or 863-0061.

Hockey players sought

The Augusta Hockey Association is looking for ice hockey players for the upcoming fall season starting in **September**. Open hockey for all ages available now. Call 556-9957 for information.

Lake activities

Fort Gordon Recreation Area and Strom Thurmond Lake offers lodging, campsites, pavilion, picnic area, boat/RV storage, camping equipment and more.

For more information on the recreation area or reserving part of the area go to www.fortgordon.com or call 541-1057.

Christmas House golf tournament

The 15th Signal Brigade is sponsoring a four-person scramble golf tournament **Oct. 16** to benefit the Christmas House charity on post.

The event, which starts with a 10-11 a.m. check-in, will feature a lunch buffet from 10:30-11:45 a.m. before the noon shotgun start.

The cost of entering the tournament is \$35, which can be paid in advance or on the day of the tournament.

To sign up, call or e-mail Capt. Kent Denmon or Sgt. 1st Class Laroy Liner at 791-2987 or 7013 or at denmonk@gordon.army.mil by **Oct. 3**.



Photo by Youth Challenge Academy cadet Natalie Allison

Players

Sgt. Wes Thomas, Company A, 551st Signal Battalion (left), Barry Wolk (center) and Richard Belles act out a scene from Neil Simon's classic comedy, *The Odd Couple*. Thomas, one of two soldiers performing in the play, has the role of Murray in the show, Wolk plays the cigar-smoking Oscar and Belles portrays Speed, another card-playing buddy.

The play, which is open to the public, will be the Fort Gordon Dinner Theatre's next production, running Sept. 12, 13, 19, 20, 25, 26 and 27. A catered dinner prepared by the Gordon Club will precede the show at 7 p.m. Showtime is 8 p.m. Tickets are \$30 for civilians, \$28 for seniors (age 65 and over), retirees, Department of the Army civilians and active duty soldiers E-8 and above, \$17 for active duty E-7 and below and \$12 for the show only.

To reserve tickets or for more information, call the theatre at 793-8552 or go to www.fortgordon.com.

Soldier wins wrestling gold in Pan Am Games

Tim Hipps

Army News Service

SANTO DOMINGO, Dominican Republic – Pfc. Tina George defeated one of her arch rivals twice Aug. 5 to make history at Pabellon de Combate.

George, a member of the U.S. Army World Class Athlete Program at Fort Carson, Colo., was one of four Americans to win gold medals in the inaugural women's wrestling competition at Pan American Games XIV.

George not only twice pummeled Canada's Tonya Verbeek, she also came from the lofty altitude of the Rockies to conquer stifling, Caribbean heat and humidity, plus the loss of a contact lens in the second round of her 4-3 victory in the 121-pound finale.

"In my semifinals match I didn't feel the same as I did this morning [in her first two matches] and it kind of had me nervous," said George, who twice vomited during her final practice the day before because of dehydration and an overload of South American fruit.

"You always want to go out and give your best, but I felt like I was dragging a little. I was kind of scared

because the girl I wrestled from Venezuela [Marcia Andrades] was the one who hurt my shoulder [earlier this year] and I had been watching her the whole tournament trying to rip girls' shoulders out of their sockets the whole day. So I was kind of wrestling with that fear."

George defeated Andrades 4-1 in the semifinals Tuesday night. Then she braced for a rematch with Verbeek, whom she defeated earlier in the day in pool competition.

"I know I'm number one, my coaches know I'm number one, and my people back at home know I'm number one, but the people here don't know that," said George, who won a silver medal in the 2002 Women's World Wrestling Championships at Halikada, Greece. "I had to prove it. I had to fight for everything I wanted, and I wanted a gold medal."

Verbeek opened the scoring in the finale with a takedown and a one-point ankle lace for an early 2-0 lead. George tied the score in the second period with her second takedown, and a two-point gut wrench gave her a 4-2 advantage.

Verbeek later forced a fleeing-the-mat call against George to make the score 4-3, but she was unable to

muster any more offense.

"I realized at the halfway point that I didn't want to give that match away," said George, 24, a carpentry/masonry specialist from Cleveland. "I didn't come out with the intensity that I usually like to show. I'd go home with a broken arm if need be, but I just wanted to win. I got off to a slow start, but I just had to reach down and pick it up."

George said she felt an obligation to both Team USA and the U.S. Army to bring home the gold.

"When I was warming up and getting nervous, I was just thinking about what (I was told) about how much rapport we have back at the unit and how everybody thought that I was a good candidate for a gold medal, and I just didn't want to let them down," she said with tears of joy pouring into a pool of sweat. "I wanted to give them everything that I had. I didn't want to let them down, not even a little bit."

U.S. women's Pan American Games coach Tricia Saunders beamed about George joining teammates Patricia Miranda, Sara McMann and Toccara Montgomery as inaugural gold medalists in the Pan Am Games.

U.S. Army Racing expands into NHRA's Pro Stock Bike Class

DENVER – Three-time NHRA pro stock bike world champion, Angelle Savoie, and teammate, Antron Brown, have signed on with the U.S. Army Racing NHRA team, announced here today by the U.S. Army.

The new "recruits" will begin carrying the U.S. Army's name and logo on their pro stock bikes this weekend in the Mopar Mile High Nationals at Bandimere Speedway.

"U.S. Army Racing is proud to offer proven winners like Angelle and Antron an opportunity to continue their careers with our team," said Lt. Gen. Dennis D. Cavin, commanding general for the U.S. Army Accessions Command at Fort Monroe, Va. "This very competitive team will help us better demonstrate how both racing and the U.S. Army rely on speed, power, technology and speedwork to win."

"Our expansion into Pro Stock Bikes will also help the Army to further develop its connection with high school, vocational and college students across all segments of the country. It gives the Army another platform that will help expand our outreach efforts, generate leads for recruiters, and expand upon our influencer (those 36-54 who influence decisions made by young Americans) base," Cavin said.

Savoie, who currently holds second-place in the pro stock bike standings, and Brown, who sits in fourth, joins Schumacher Racing Top Fuel driver, Tony "The Sarge" Schumacher, as part of the U.S. Army Racing NHRA family. The latter has been partnered with the Army since the 2000 U.S. Nationals.

Plans call for Savoie and Brown to join "The Sarge" as keynote speakers for the NHRA's Youth and Education Services (Y.E.S.) program, presented by the U.S. Army. The program helps kids better understand career planning and the breadth of opportunities at the track, as well as how math and science play a role in drag racing. Savoie and Brown are also slated to make school visits across all segments of the country with

Schumacher.

"This is unbelievable," said Savoie of the new partnership with U.S. Army Racing and Don Schumacher. "It's really a dream come true. We just about had to call it quits, with no money left to race. Denver was going to be our stopping point. And, that would have been heart-wrenching since Denver was where I started my career. Now, we can keep moving on. I'm so happy."

Brown became only the second African-American to win an NHRA event when he won the 1999 Castrol Nationals in Dallas, Texas.

"It's really great to be a part of the U.S. Army Racing and Don Schumacher Racing family," offered Brown. "We finally can go out and race the right way. Everything just came together at the right time for us and I'm extremely thankful for this opportunity. We couldn't have asked for a better partner than the U.S. Army."

Racing without a sponsor for the first half of the 2003 NHRA POWERade Drag Racing Series season, Savoie and Brown will now sport the traditional black and gold colors of the U.S. Army for the remaining eight races of the pro stock bike campaign under the Don Schumacher Racing umbrella.

Savoie has posted three wins and a number one qualifying spot to date this season, while Brown has a final round appearance to his credit.

"We're pleased to have Angelle and Antron join Schumacher Racing," said team owner, Don Schumacher. "Clearly, they will be a nice complement to our already successful U.S. Army Top Fuel program."

In addition to its NHRA program with Don Schumacher Racing, U.S. Army Racing also includes the Number 01 NASCAR Winston Cup Series/MB2 Motorsports team with driver Jerry Nadeau, who is presently recovering from injuries sustained in a practice crash two months ago. Mike Wallace and Boris Said are filling in for Nadeau.



Angelle Savoie, who hails from New Orleans, has compiled an impressive resume in just seven seasons of competition. Entering the 2003 season, she had recorded 28 victories and 43 final rounds, while becoming only the second rider to win three consecutive Pro Stock Bike titles. Savoie's career highlights: *3-Time NHRA Champion (2000, 2001 and 2002) *Winningest female in NHRA history *Set the Pro Stock Bike national elapsed time record (7.049 seconds)



Antron Brown, an Indianapolis resident, began his racing career in 1998. He finished among the top four in the Pro Stock Bike standings last year for the fourth straight time. Along the way, he established career bests in both elapsed time and speed. Through the 2002 season, he had 10 wins and 17 final rounds to his credit. Brown's career highlights: *Career-best second in the 2001 NHRA Pro Stock Bike final standings *Won the Matco Tools Supnationals in Englishtown in 2002

Broad Street Ramble coming

The Augusta Striders is putting together their traditional road race, The Broad Street Ramble, for Sept. 20.

Sponsored locally by SRP Federal Credit Union, the road race will give area individuals a chance to demonstrate their fitness abilities and experience the tradition in running down the oldest streets of Augusta.

The road race – which takes place from 7:30-10 a.m. at the Augusta Museum of History on Broad Street, has something to offer for everyone. The event will include refreshments, music, T-shirts, awards and door prizes.

Events include a two mile run, half-mile kids run, 10K run, one-mile kids run and tot trot. To register early mail applications to The Augusta Striders, P.O. Box 3154, Augusta, Ga., 30904, or register on-line at www.Active.com. Packet pickup/on-site registration Sept. 19, 5-7 p.m. at the Augusta Museum of History.

Packet pickup/day-of registration starting at 6:30 a.m. Sept. 20.

For information about the Broad Street Ramble or for an application, call 737-9114, or go to www.augustastriders.org.

Spectrum



Miasia and Tkeyah Anderson go down a slide during the Back to School Jamboree Saturday.

Going back in style

First Back to School Jamboree held on post

Sgt. Ryan Matson
Military editor

Fort Gordon youth found getting ready to go back to school can actually be a fun experience, maybe even a full-fledged “Jamboree!”

Morale, Welfare and Recreation teamed up with the Army and Air Force Exchange Service, Burger King, Children and Youth Services and Better Opportunities for Single Service members to throw a back to school bash Saturday for Fort Gordon and area youngsters about to head back into the classroom.

MWR commercial sponsorship manager Kim Lyons said the event was held to give area children one last day of summer fun.

“We want the children to be excited to return to school so we came up with this Back to School Jamboree,” Lyons said.

The Back to School Jamboree even gave children the opportunity to save some allowance money on back to school shopping supplies. The first 500 children to attend the Jamboree, which ran from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m., received free bags of school supplies including pencils, pens, crayons, glue, scissors, folders, rulers and a note pad.

The day was filled with fun activities for local children to amuse themselves with. There were funnel cakes prepared by BOSS as well as other food and concessions such as popcorn and snow cones. There were numerous rides, games and an arts and crafts area. The Fort Gordon fire department stopped by and sprayed youngsters with some much-needed cool water, and the Fort Gordon 35th Military Police Detachment patrolled the event and also gave attendees a K-9 demonstration. The day also featured performances by local entertainers Mr. Magic, Cappo the Clown, and Fort Gordon’s own Dynamic Steppers dance troupe. Lyons said she hopes to build on the success of the event and the large amount of children it drew.

The event was made possible by local sponsors, she said, adding, “We’ll make this an annual event.”



(Above) Kayla Lyons, 12, sugars a funnel cake. The funnel cakes were sold by BOSS to raise money for upcoming events.



(Right) Alexis Martin shows off her balloon animal made by Cappo the Clown, one of the featured entertainers.



Photos by Sgt. Ryan Matson

BOSS coordinator Spc. Ariane Gonzales gets doused with water by fellow volunteers while cleaning up after the jamboree.



Kids and parents take a ride on the jamboree bus.



Kim Lyons holds donated school bags full of supplies.